# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the POSTAL RATE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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POSTAL RAYE COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 2000

Docket No. R2000-1

ANSWER OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE
TO INTERROGATORY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
WITNESS: TED P. GERARDEN (USPS/OCA-T7-7(a)),
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS WILLETTE
(June 15, 2000)

)

The Office of the Consumer Advocate hereby submits the answer of Ted P. Gerarden to interrogatory USPS/OCA-T7-7(a), dated June 1, 2000, and redirected from witness Willette. The interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

TED P. GER⁄ARDEN

Director

Office of the Consumer Advocate

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## ANSWER OF OCA WITNESS TED P. GERARDEN TO INTERROGATORY USPS/OCA-T7-7(a)

USPS/OCA-T7-7(a). On page 18 lines 13-14 of your testimony you state that CEM will "more closely align rates with costs for household mailers."

(a) Is more closely aligning rates with costs for letters and cards generated [by] household mailers a goal of the OCA?

### RESPONSE TO USPS/OCA-T7-7(a):

(a) The trend over the past twelve years has been for First-Class letter mail to carry an ever-increasing burden of the institutional costs of the Postal Service. By all commonly used measures, the revenue generated by First-Class letter mail has increased relative to the costs attributable to such mail. It is a goal of the OCA to reverse this trend such that rates—including rates for letters and cards generated by household mailers—are more closely aligned with the costs for First-Class Mail.

#### **DECLARATION**

I, Ted P. Gerarden, declare under penalty of perjury that the answer to interrogatory USPS/OCA-T7-7(a) of the United States Postal Service is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Executed June 15, 2000

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#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with Section 12 of the Rules of Practice.

Jennie Wallace JENNIE WALLACE

Washington, DC 20268-0001 June 15, 2000